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ELP 621

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~ [REDACTED]COUNTRY ~~Soviet Zone of Germany~~

REPORT NO. 25X1

TOPIC ~~Soviet Artillery Units in BERNBURG~~

EVALUATION [REDACTED] 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1 [REDACTED]

DATE OF CONTENT 1 and 9 December 1949

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 27 January 1950

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Artillery units, which had returned from the ALTENGRABOW (M 53/Z 00) troop training grounds, were quartered in the Adolf Hitler Kaserne, BERNBURG (M 52/D 76), on 1 December 1949.

a. About 40 long-barreled guns of 76.2-to 100 mm caliber and about 30 AT guns of 40 to 50 mm caliber were allegedly stored in the ordnance shops of the caserne.

b. The trucks of the units were stored in solid garage buildings in the rear of the caserne area.

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2. a. The caserne on Ilberstaedterstrasse, BERNBURG, was occupied to capacity by artillery units of about 1,100 troops on 9 December 1949. The units were said to be one AT artillery regiment with eight to ten batteries, one or two battalions of a field artillery regiment and one or two regimental headquarters.

(1) About 40 artillery officers, including two colonels and one lieutenant colonel, were seen in the caserne area.

(2) AT guns of 50 to 76.2 mm caliber; short-barreled guns of 76.2 mm caliber and howitzers of 122 mm caliber were stored in the ordnance shops.

(3) Five blocked-up field kitchens and three other field kitchens coupled to trucks were seen beside the solid garage buildings.

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(4) There was little motor traffic. [REDACTED]

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CLASSIFICATION

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(5) A sergeant and six MM wearing artillery insignia on their epaulets left the caserne in the evening and boarded the train to MAGDEBURG (M 53/Y 60) where higher headquarters were said to be located.

b. The following observations were made in BERNBURG on the same day:

(1) The kommandatura with a personnel of about 70 was on Friedensallee.

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(2) An MGB office with a personnel of about 40 was at 13-15 Franzstrasse.

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Comment:

According to previous information, only the Adolf Hitler Kaserne, BERNBURG, was exclusively occupied by artillery units (AT and field artillery units). In previous reports, the Adolf Hitler Kaserne was also referred to as Kaserne at the cemetery, or Infanterie Kaserne, or Talstadt Kaserne or Kaserne on Silberstaedterstrasse. Para 2a of the report again confirms that most of the BERNBURG units are headquarters artillery units of the Third Shock Army, including elements of an AT artillery unit (3rd Gds AT Arty Brig ?).

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